its side effects are yet to be know (*vide* The Peioneer, dated 23rd May, 1998)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) There is a passing reference in the Book, to 30% of American Males being functionally Sterile. However, an article published in 'New England Journal of Medicine, 1996', has estimated that 20-30 million American Men are affected by erectile dysfunction.

(b) It is not correct to say that the problem of impotency does not exist in India.

(c) Any new Drug will have to be Registered in India before it is made available to consumers in the market. However, individual patients, against Doctor's Prescription is allowed to import it. To fulfil the conditions of registration, the applicant has to meet the requirements stipulated in Schedule "Y" to the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules. The question of banning a Drug, which has not yet been registered for marketing in India, does not arise.

Financial assistance from Minister's discretionary grant

*250. SHRI S. MATHU MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of requests received by the ministry for the grant of financial assistance from the discretionary grant of the Hon'ble Health Minister during the last two financial years;

(b) the total amount released for such requests;

(c) whether in most of the cases the needy and poor are unable to get the said grant due to delay at the ministry level in processing the cases of such poor persons; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the ministry to avoid denial of such grant to such needy persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) The total number of requests received in the ministry during 1996-97 and 1997-98 were 1472 and 1552 respectively.

(b) The amount released was as follows:—

Year	Total amount of grant released
1996-97	Rs. 44.06 lakhs
1997-98	Rs. 47.00 lakhs

(c) No, Sir. The cases are processed promptly. The delay in sanction/release of grant is mainly due to incomplete applications/medical report, non-furnishing of income certificate, inability of the patient to arrange for the balance amount required for surgical interventions, etc.

(d) Immediately on receipt of an incomplete request for financial assistance, the patient is asked to furnish the requisite information/documents.

PG diploma courses in Business Management

*251. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Council for Technical Education has decided as a matter of policy not to accord approval to any more new courses of Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) All India Council for Technical Education has reported that based on Expert Committee reviews of the existing Post Graduate Disploma Courses in Business